September 1914, a district is treated as a separate unit and the amount raised in each district is required to be spent in it. Under the new arrangement the malnad parts will also be entitled to receive benefit equivalent to their contribution.

SUBJECT No. 54.

Emptying tanks.

Mr. Chikbadappa, Sira taluk.

Summary of discussion.—When tanks are completely emptied great difficulties are experienced for drinking water to men and cattle and the water in wells in the gardens under such tanks also dries up. It is, therefore, prayed that orders may issue to retain always 3 feet of water in tanks.

The member urged that this could be done by raising the waste weir.

Mr. Hanumantha Rao said that the atchkat holders would never consent to water being refused for irrigation while it was available.

Reply of Government.—Government will have no objection if the villagers and the holders of the atchkat consent to the proposal.

SUBJECT No. 55.

(*a*) Restoration of major and minor tanks in malnad.

Messrs. Santappa Setty, Koppa taluk, and H. Krishna Rao, Kadur District Board.

(*b*) Classification of major and minor tanks.

Mr. M. S. Ramachar, Kolar municipality.

(*c*) Improvement of minor tanks.

(1) Mr. Dorasamiengar, Chamrajnagar taluk.

(2) Messrs. Gangappa, Nagamangala taluk, and Linge Gowda, Krishnarajpete taluk.

(3) Messrs. Venkatasamaiya, Chamrajnagar taluk, and Herur Gundappa, Kunigal taluk.

(*d*) Earthwork to tanks.

(1) Mr. Ramappa, Challakere taluk.

(2) Messrs. Chik Ramanna and Byre Gowda, Kolar taluk, H. Surasastri, Chikballapur taluk, and Mallegowda, Bowringpet taluk, Danasetti, Dodballapur taluk, and Srikantaiya, Dodballapur municipality.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) All tanks whether major or minor in the malnad parts of the district may be restored once for all by Government as such restoration is necessary for purposes of irrigation owing to the scanty and uncertain rains.

(*b*) It is prayed that a more satisfactory classification may be made by taking the assessment of the lands under the tank as the criterion for the classification instead of the 10 years' average of actual collections.

(*c*) (1) Though the rate of kandayam levied on wet land both under minor and major tanks is the same, the earthwork of major tanks is undertaken by the Government, while that of the minor tanks is left to the raiyats holding lands under them who neglect the work owing to want of unanimity among them. Hence the condition of the minor tanks is far from satisfactory. It is prayed that the earthwork of minor tanks also be undertaken by Government, the cost being recovered in instalments from the raiyats holding lands under those tanks.

(2) The budget allotment for the annual repairs of tanks is being used up for the repairs of a few big tanks. The smaller tanks are without repairs for a very long time. Many tanks are completely silted up with the result that sufficient water is not available for men and cattle. It is prayed that these minor tanks may also be repaired.

(3) As the raiyats holding lands under tanks are suffering greatly, it is further prayed that a commission be appointed to enquire into (1) atchkats under tanks,

(2) water spread area, (3) the sufficiency or otherwise of the water that collects in the tank for at least one season and (4) the state of the waste weir and the necessity for its being raised, etc., and to make a detailed report on all these points.

Annual allotment may be made to every taluk for the restoration of minor tanks.

(d) (1) According to Government Order No. R. 1869-79—L. R. 564-11-2, dated 25th August 1913, the raiyats of a hamlet are also liable to do earthwork to the tank of the *Asali* village even when they derive no benefit from the tank. This has created great hardship to the raiyats of the hamlets. The rules may be so altered as to make only the raiyats deriving direct benefit from a tank liable to do the earthwork.

(2) The raiyats may be exempted from doing earthwork and the restoration of minor tanks may be undertaken by Government as in the case of major tanks.

Steps may be taken to restore the minor tanks which yield a revenue of Rs. 100 and above.

The Dewan said that the preparation of estimates would, for the present, have to be done by Government agency. The questions for consideration were—

The respective shares of Government and the raiyats in the cost of restoration.

The agency for the execution of the work

The sense of the meeting on the first day (2nd October 1914) on which the subject was taken up was :—

(1) Government should prepare estimates.

(2) The villagers would contribute ¼th of the cost.

(3) The execution should be entrusted to one or more of the principal holders of lands below the tank in question.

(4) The measurements should be taken, and bills prepared by Government agency.

In view of the importance of the question, it was reserved for discussion on a future day.

The following rough scheme for the restoration of minor tanks was prepared to serve as a basis for discussion and distributed among the members, before the subject came up again on the 5th October 1914.

A Rough Scheme for the Restoration of Minor Tanks, to serve as a basis for discussion by the Representative Assembly, on the 5th October 1914.

The number of minor tanks in the State that await restoration is 19,500. At present the average number of

tanks restored annually is about 100 for the whole State. At this rate no appreciable impression can be made on the work which awaits handling. A vigorous policy is therefore necessary. Government are prepared to give every reasonable help in the matter. The following scheme is outlined as a basis for discussion :—

1. *Preparation of plans and estimates.*—The preliminary work is the preparation of correct plans and estimates. For the present, Government provide the necessary agency for the purpose and furnish plans and estimates to the raiyats of any village who apply for the same. In course of time, the people should be able to get these done themselves and Government officers will merely check them.

2. *Agency for carrying out the work.*—As it is essential to associate the villagers with the work of restoring their village tank, it may be entrusted to them for execution, one to three of the leading raiyats holding a large extent of land under the tank being made responsible for its proper execution under definite *mutchalikas* and securities. The villagers should themselves get the work done by contract or otherwise, and provide for the necessary supervision.

3. *Method of financing the scheme.*—Of the total cost of restoration of a tank the share to be borne by the raiyats will be one-third, the balance of two-thirds being contributed by Government. The contribution of the people as well as of Government will be deposited in the treasury ; and out of this, advances may be given to the raiyats where it is absolutely necessary and adjusted in subsequent bills. Further payments will be made on monthly or periodical bills prepared after actual measurement of work or check of measurement by responsible Government agency. The same conditions should be offered for the construction of new tanks wherever necessary.

4. *Recovery of contribution from the people.*—If two-thirds of the people interested in a village tank agree to pay their share of the cost, provision should be made for recovering the amounts due from the other raiyats.

If one or more holders pay the full amount of contribution due from the whole village, facilities will be provided to recoup them by Government recovering the amount due from the others.

5. *Preparation of a manual.*—To facilitate the preparation of plans and estimates by other than professional people, a manual of 30 pages giving simple instructions regarding the preparation of plans and estimates, construction, measurement and final certificates will be prepared and issued both in English and Kannada.

Efforts will also be made to train villagers as maistries by giving instruction in elementary engineering, etc., to enable them to prepare estimates and supervise construction.

6. *Cost of the scheme.*—The most regrettable feature of the existing tanks is their shallowness even when full. This is due to the annual process of silting. It may be roughly stated that the restoration of 100 to 200 tanks a year will simply go to make good the loss due to the annual silting of the existing tanks. It is therefore contemplated that at least 1,000 tanks should be restored every year in the State. The cost of restoring 1,000 tanks will be, taking the average cost at Rs. 800, roughly Rs. 8 lakhs. Of this, the people's share will be Rs. $2\frac{2}{3}$ lakhs and the Government share will be Rs. $5\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs. At present Government are spending about Rs. 2 lakhs and they will be prepared to find the extra $3\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs. This means a programme involving an expenditure of over a crore of rupees in 20 years. In sanctioning works for any year, the tanks the restoration of which costs not more than 10 times the assessment will be preferred, to begin with.

The Assembly were unanimously of opinion that the scheme was as liberal as could reasonably be expected and afforded the only practical solution of the great problem of restoration of minor tanks.

Some members, however, stated that $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent was too large a share in the case of some specially poor villages, and might be reduced to 25 per cent. The Dewan observed that $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent should be the rule, but that specially hard cases might be separately considered, if they arose.

Some points incidentally raised during the discussion were:—

(i) The limit of expenditure in relation to a minor tank. The Dewan said that, ordinarily, works the expenditure on which did not exceed 10 times the annual revenue would have preference.

(ii) The procedure when the whole of the contribution of the villagers was paid up by a few only of the raiyats.

It was suggested that Government should recover proportionate contributions with accruing interest from the other raiyats, and recoup the money with interest to the persons who had paid up the whole.

The Dewan said the proposal would be considered.

(iii) Preparation of Kannada Manuals.

(iv) Opening schools for training maistries.

After some discussion the Chief Engineer agreed to take the necessary action as regards both these points.

Reply of Government.—Government are glad that the rough scheme placed before the Assembly has met with its approval. Before effect is given to it, it may be necessary to revise the rules. The subject will be thoroughly considered and early orders issued.

SUBJECT NO. 56.

Miras to *totis* and *talaris*.

(1) Messrs. Suryanarayana Rao, Tumkur taluk, Srikantiah, Maddagiri taluk, Agali Venkataramiah and Chikbadappa, Sira taluk, Hutchiah, Tumkur municipality, Settara Veerasetti, Tumkur District Board and Chennappa, Kunigal taluk.

(2) Messrs. C. Naraharaiya, D. S. Krishna Rao and Rudrappa, Nelamangala taluk, and K. Krishnamurti Rao, Magadi taluk.

(3) Mr. Hutchaveeregowda, Gubbi taluk.

(4) Messrs. Patre Veerappa, Kadur taluk, Nadig Rangappa, Holalkere taluk, Lingappa and N. Bheema Rao, Chitaldrug municipality.

(5) Messrs. Chik Ramanna and Byregowda, Kolar taluk, Byra Reddi and Subba Reddi, Chintamani taluk, Gori Rajanna, Chennappareddi and Brahmappa, Goribidnur taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) The *miras* now given to *totis* and *talaris* is very heavy considering its money value in these hard times. It amounts to half the revenue payable on dry lands. The land owners find it a great hardship to pay *miras* in addition to land revenue. The same may either be done away with or it may at least be reduced.

(2) The *miras* to minor village servants may be abolished as this entails great hardship on the raiyats.

(3) As the raiyats are not giving *miras* to *totis* and *talaris* regularly, they are put to great inconvenience. It is requested that arrangements may be made for its proper distribution.

(4) The *totis* and *talaris* cannot make their living out of the small inam land granted by Government. The *miras* is not paid to them regularly by the raiyats. It is therefore requested that they may be given a fixed salary.

(5) It is prayed that the present system of paying *miras* to the village servants may be abolished and a fixed allowance or land inam granted.

The members who took part in the discussion, *viz.*, *Messrs. D. S. Hanumantha Rao, M. K. Krishna Murti, A. Annaiya Pandit and D. S Krishna Rao* said that formerly the system of *miras* was applicable to all village officers. It has been abolished in the case of patels and shanbhogs. It was introduced about the year 1878 in the case of *totis*, *talaris*, etc., in the Nandidroog Division. As the *miras* was levied in kind according to a fixed proportion on the whole occupied area, the rise in prices had the effect of making the emoluments due to these village servants much greater than the *potgi* now paid to patels and shanbhogs, while as regards the holders of land they were practically made to pay about half or two-thirds of the assessment as an additional impost on account of these servants.

Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao said that in malnad the *kulvadi* was given a sheaf of corn and dead cattle.

Mr. M. K. Krishnamurti said that there was no reason why raiyats should pay for these village servants who do merely Government work.

Messrs. Chikka Ramanna, Byregowda, Hutchaviregowda, Gundappa and Channakesaviah suggested that